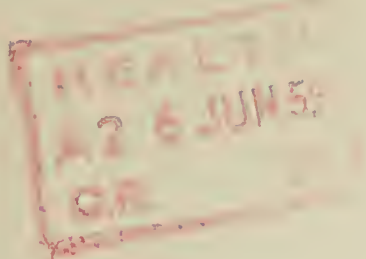


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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G

31st December, 1958.

...oOo...



UPPINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1958.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1958.
This report deals generally with the matters within my responsibility regarding Public Health and Preventive Medicine and is presented in the form required by the Ministry of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area(in acres).....	24,735
Registrar General's Estimate of Population.....	6,270
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1958.....	1,988
Rateable Value.....	£ 56,503
Nett product of a penny rate.....	£ 203.13.8

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	48	39	87
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>50</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>91</u>
Still Births - Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

	<u>Rate for</u> <u>District.</u>	<u>Rate for</u> <u>England & Wales.</u>
Birth Rate	18.5	16.4
Death Rate	9.2	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	21.9	22.5

These statistics compare favourably with those for England and Wales.



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CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	2
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	8
Coronary disease. Angina	5	2
Hypertension with heart disease	-	2
Other heart disease	3	2
Other circulatory disease	1	3
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	2
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
All other accidents	-	1
Suicide	2	-
	<u>31</u>	<u>32</u>

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1958.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Whooping Cough	1	-	-
Measles	45	-	-
Pneumonia	6	-	3
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>$\frac{1}{2}$</u>	<u>$\frac{2}{3}$</u>	<u>$\frac{3}{4}$</u>	<u>$\frac{4}{5}$</u>	<u>$\frac{5}{10}$</u>	<u>$\frac{10}{15}$</u>	<u>$\frac{15}{25}$</u>	<u>$\frac{25}{35}$</u>	<u>$\frac{35}{45}$</u>	<u>$\frac{45}{64}$</u>	<u>65 & Over.</u>
Whooping Cough			1									
Measles	1	5	5	3	4	26	1					
Pneumonia		1		1	1		1		1	1		
Scarlet Fever							1					

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1958.

No new cases were notified and there were no deaths from this cause.

TYPE OF DISTRICT.

The district is almost entirely agricultural.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health - John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Camb.
Medical Officer of Health acts for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts in which this district is included.

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor - J.E. Garbett, M.R.S.H.

The following examinations were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Nose & throat Swabs	6
Faeces & Urine	23
Sputa	13
V & C	1
Milk	25
Water	32
Miscellaneous	1
	<u>101</u>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Supply.

The water supply for the district is derived as follows:-

(a) from the Uppingham R.D.C's. Welland Valley Waterworks to the parishes of Uppingham

Lyddington
Thorpe by Water
Ayston
Bisbrooke
Seaton
Stoke Dry
Glaeton

(b) from the Uppingham R.D.C's. borehole at North Luffenham to the parishes of North Luffenham

South Luffenham
Morcott
Wing
Preston
Ridlington
Pilton

(c) from the Uppingham R.D.C's. borehole at Allcexton (in Billesdon Rural District) to the parish of Belton.

(d) from the Oundle & Thrapston R.D.C's. borehole at Tixover (bulk supply) to the parish of Barrowden.

(e) from the Mid-Northants Water Board to the parish of Caldecott.

(f) Only two small parishes remain without public mains supply, i.e. Wardley (population 26) and Beaumont Chase (population 4). At Wardley a good piped supply is available from a private estate source.

Quantity & Quality.

All centres of population in the district (excepting Wardley, already adequately supplied) have mains water. Only a few isolated properties remain outside the range of the water mains.

Sixteen samples of mains water supplies in the district were taken for bacteriological examination. The reports received were consistently good. None of the mains water supplies have any plumbo-solvent characteristics.

Chemically, the water from Belton and North Luffenham boreholes is less satisfactory. Trouble due to iron content causing redness has to some extent been countered by the addition of Calgon. There also seems to be some improvement in the amount of scale found in the hot water supply systems in the area. Regular flushing of the water mains also helps to keep the water in good condition.

Samples of water from shallow wells still remaining in use were taken from time to time and action taken in one or two cases to improve the quality of the water obtained from them, or to induce the owners to take supplies from the available water mains. In the Leicester Road area of Uppingham, the Council's water mains were extended to make a piped supply available to nine isolated dwellings, the majority of which had unsatisfactory shallow well supplies.

A series of samples of water from a shallow well supplying an inn where catering is carried on proved to be unsatisfactory. Prolonged negotiations with the owner failed to persuade him to take steps to obtain a supply from the nearest water main. Finally, the Council took proceedings to obtain the closure of the well under section 140 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The application to the Court was contested by the owner. The Court granted the application and thereafter the owner of the inn came to terms with the Council and a mains supply was made available to the inn. This involved laying 1,000 yards of 1" polythene pipe. A further 850 yards of polythene piping was laid to serve several other outlying properties in the district.

There was no shortage of water during the year.

The following tables show the position at the end of the year regarding mains supplies to dwellings in the various parishes.

Parish.	Population (est.)	No. of Habitable dwellings.	No. of houses in village not supplied.
Ayston	60	15	3
Barrowden	365	125	4
Belton	282	102	16
Bisbrooke	148	60	4
Caldecott	265	91	-
Glaston	173	57	2
Luffenham North	435	140	9
Luffenham South	325	100	5
Lyddington	290	108	5 (Est.)
Morcott	357	114	8
Pilton	32	8	-
Preston	200	73	10
Ridlington	160	62	3
Seaton	180	58	2
Stoke Dry	30	11	3
Thorpe by Water	45	12	2
Uppingham	2,528	725	3
Wing	245	106	3
Totals	6,120	1,967	82 (Est.)

Complete figures are not available for the parish of Caldecott, which is within the area of supply of the Mid-Northants Water Board.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Progress towards sewerage further villages was made during the year. The sewerage areas remain:

Uppingham
Lyddington
Belton
Glaston and
parts of Preston.

Work was commenced on the construction of sewers and sewage disposal works to serve North Luffenham and South Luffenham. It is hoped to complete this scheme by the end of 1959.

The Council's consulting engineers have prepared a scheme for the replacement of the existing old sewage farm at Uppingham by a new sewage disposal works designed on the surface aeration, or activated sludge, principle. The scheme will also provide for the sewerage of the London Road area of the town, where several school houses and other properties are served by inadequate septic tank systems which cause gross pollution of the small stream to which they discharge.

In March, a local investigation was carried out by an Inspector from the Ministry of Housing & Local Government into the proposals put forward by the Council for a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Wing village. At the end of the year not further progress had been made with this scheme.

The machinery for carrying through schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal moves very slowly and the difficulties in villages where there are piped private water supplies and no proper sewers remain. Pail closets are still in general use and sewage dykes convey foul drainage to ditches and streams in the district.

The estimated closet accommodation in the district is

(a) Privies and pail closets	770
(b) Water closets	1,035

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The refuse collection system is a fortnightly collection from all properties and weekly collections from Hotels, Cafes and School Houses in Uppingham.

The scavenging work proceeded reasonably smoothly through the year. With a small labour staff and no reserve vehicle, it is impracticable to preserve a rigid collection schedule and any time lost due to mechanical breakdown of the vehicle and holidays or sickness of the men cannot be made up again. Once again, credit should be given to the men for the consistent work they put in and very small loss of time due to sickness.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE OF PESTS ACT, 1949.

As before, the Council participated in the Rutland County Joint Pest Control Scheme, which continued to work well through the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Particulars given here are for all purposes, including particulars given elsewhere in the report.

Total number of complaints received..... 28

Number of defects or nuisances discovered..... 41

<u>Nature of inspections.</u>	<u>No. of inspections.</u>	<u>No. of re-visits.</u>
Water supplies	29	19
Dwellinghouses	65	17
Tents, vans, etc.	3	-
Food premises	27	9
Offensive trades	-	-
Factories & workshops	14	-
Drainage systems	154	9
Sewage plant	52	28
Slaughterhouses	8	182
Meat & Foods	160	-
Infectious disease	4	-
Refuse collection & disposal	26	12
Miscellaneous	37	59
	<u>579</u>	<u>335</u>

Notices.

<u>Preliminary.</u>	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1958	7	1
Issued during the year	15	19
Complied with during the year	16	12
Statutory action necessary	-	1
Outstanding on 31st December, 1958	6	7
<u>Statutory.</u>	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1958	-	-
Issued during the year	4	1
Complied with during the year	4	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1958	-	1

Inspections by Medical Officer
of Health.

Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	77
Food Premises	...	...	...	59
Shops	...	...	...	73
Dairies & Cowsheds	..	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	47
				<u>259</u>

H O U S I N G

The standard of dwellinghouses in the district continues to show improvement. Many of the dwellinghouses are very old and of architectural or historical interest. The Council have continued their policy of giving every encouragement to owners to recondition and improve properties, rather than to demolish them. Full use has been made of the Housing Act, 1949 (as amended) to give grants for improvements and conversions. Many of the properties which have been made into charming and comfortable dwellings were classified as individual unfit houses incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense.

The following are the figures for the year:-

Unfit houses demolished by local authority	Nil.
" " " " owners	3.
Houses improved to grant standard (Housing Act, 1949)	20
House improvement grant schemes approved	39

Inspections of dwellinghouses during the year.

1. (a) Total number inspected for defects (under the Housing Acts)	49
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	93
2. Number of dwellinghouses found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	47

Remedy of defects during the year without service
of formal notices.

Dwellinghouses rendered fit as result of informal action by Local Authority or their officers	11
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Post War Housing.

Very little new housing activity took place during the year. Seven private development dwellings were completed and three were under construction. Four new Council Houses (to re-house the occupants of temporary hutted type buildings) were finished in the village of Lyddington.

The seven private dwellings completed were old people's bungalows built by two local Charities and were particularly welcome at a time when attention is being directed to the housing of old people. The Council also considered building old persons' bungalows and it is hoped that, as a result, a scheme will be commenced in 1959.

At the end of the year, there were 74 applications for Council Houses on the waiting list 12 of these applications were from outside the Council's area.

F O O D

Milk.

Twenty-five samples of milk produced and/or retailed in the District were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester, for bacteriological examination. The reports received were satisfactory.

Ice Cream.

No ice cream is manufactured in the district. All registered premises sell pre-packed ice cream obtained from approved manufacturers.

Meat and Foods.

Four small private slaughterhouses were licensed during the year. Slaughtering took place at irregular times, including evenings and Sundays. Due to these factors and pressure of work in other directions, it was not possible to inspect all animals slaughtered. The average inspection ratio was approximately 56%. The standard of meat produced in the district remained very high; and no diseased meat was detected in the carcasses inspected.

Carcases Inspected.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses
Number killed (estimated)	145	Nil	Nil	910	240	Nil
Number inspected	101	-	-	480	155	-

Consistent meat inspection in a rural area where the sole Public Health Inspector has many other duties to perform is a physical impossibility. Until slaughtering times are controlled, full inspection of carcasses must remain in abeyance. It is fortunate in the circumstances that the meat trade in the area is very high class.

Seventy-two items of food in tins, jars or other pre-packed containers were condemned during the year.

Food Premises.

1. - No. of Food Premises in Area by Type of Business.

Bakehouses.....	2
Dairies.....	1
Butcher's Shops.....	7
Cafes and Hotels.....	8
Grocer's Shops	28
(inc. Greengrocers etc.)	
Fish fried	1
Fish fresh	1
Premises for sale of ice cream	26

N.B. Certain premises are automatically included under more than one sub-heading, e.g. Cafes and Ice Cream Premises.

No. of Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of
the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Premises registered for sale of ice cream	26
Others	5

No. of Dairies registered under the Milk & Dairies
Regulations, 1949.

.....	1
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3. - No. of inspections of Registered Food Premises.

.....	33
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4. - Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

- Burnt or buried at Council Refuse Tip.

5. - Examination of Food Consignments.

.....	Nil.
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Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

The main difficulty encountered was the basic unsuitability of some old buildings for use as food premises. Compliance with the Regulations involves considerable expense which small businesses find difficulty in meeting.

Due to pressure of work in other directions, the application of the Food Hygiene Regulations has been mainly confined to premises where food is prepared, i.e. hotels, cafes and bakehouses.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE, 1948.

No action has been necessary during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG.

Medical Officer of Health.

